

Remarks

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 27 and 29-46 are pending in the application. Claims 27, 35, and 41 are independent. Claims 27-46 have been rejected. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Claims 27, 32, 34, and 35 have been amended for reasons of clarity and not related to patentability. Claim 28 has been cancelled.

Patentability of Claims 27-33, 35, 38-41, and 44-46 over Chapel and Gilker under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 27-33, 35, 38-41, and 44-46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,628,009 to Chapel (“Chapel”) and U.S. Patent No. 4,581,705 to Gilker et al. (“Gilker”). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 27

Independent claim 27 recites in part: “with at least one of the plurality of separate power information visual display sections disposed in the power distribution apparatus, reporting power information regarding the first power phase distributed by the at least a first of the plurality of polyphase power outputs” and “with at least a second of the plurality of separate power information visual display sections disposed in the power distribution apparatus, at least partially simultaneously reporting power information regarding the second power phase distributed by the at least a second of the plurality of polyphase power outputs” (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that Chapel does not teach or suggest any type of separate power information visual display sections disposed in a power distribution apparatus to report information regarding power phases, let alone the type claimed or within the environment of the power information visual display sections claimed, as noted in the Office Action at Page 3.

Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker does not cure the deficiencies of Chapel. For example, Gilker is understood to describe a single visual display device (an LED display) that can provide a readout for a certain phase of a polyphase system *when a corresponding phase button is pressed* (see, e.g., Gilker at col. 5, line 47, to col. 6, line 29). Applicant respectfully submits, however, that Gilker is not unlike the prior art described in the present application at paragraph [0010]: “this

prior art three-phase plugstrip has included a single current display visible to an operator along the face of the plugstrip in which the outputs are also mounted.” The present application continues by stating that “another problem with this type of prior art system is that it requires the operator to take the time and effort to stop whatever the operator may be doing, turn attention to the plugstrip, and press the display button on the plugstrip to cycle through and observe the current indicators for the various phases” (*see* paragraph [0011]). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker does not teach or suggest with at least one of the plurality of separate power information visual display sections disposed in the power distribution apparatus, reporting power information regarding the first power phase distributed by the at least a first of the plurality of polyphase power outputs or with at least a second of the plurality of separate power information visual display sections disposed in the power distribution apparatus, at least partially simultaneously reporting power information regarding the second power phase distributed by the at least a second of the plurality of polyphase power outputs, as recited in independent claim 27.

Additionally, Gilker does not teach or suggest simultaneous display of power information for multiple power phases. In fact, Gilker teaches away from it. For example, Gilker describes how different parameters for phase A could be shown sequentially and held for a short period of time, but “[t]hen, the same current parameters for the current in phase B would be shown for a short time and then so on to phase C and the ground phase” (*see* Gilker at col. 6, lines 23-25). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker teaches away from with at least one of the plurality of separate power information visual displays each disposed in the power distribution apparatus, reporting power information regarding the first power phase distributed by the at least a first of the plurality of polyphase power outputs and with at least a second of the plurality of separate power information visual displays each disposed in the power distribution apparatus, reporting power information regarding the second power phase distributed by the at least a second of the plurality of polyphase power outputs, wherein the reporting power information regarding the first power phase and the reporting power information regarding the second power phase occur simultaneously, as recited by independent claim 27.

Therefore, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter of independent claim 27. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references let alone in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn from independent claim 27 and such action is respectfully requested.

Claim 28

Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claim 28 has been cancelled, thereby rendering the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 28 moot.

Claim 29

Dependent claim 29 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 27 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 27. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of distributing polyphase alternating current power “wherein the reporting power information regarding the first power phase comprises determining current of the first power phase,” as recited by dependent claim 29.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 29 be withdrawn.

Claim 30

Dependent claim 30 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 27 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 27. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of distributing polyphase alternating current power “wherein the reporting power information regarding the second power phase comprises determining current of the second power phase,” as recited by dependent claim 30.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 30 be withdrawn.

Claim 31

Dependent claim 31 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 27 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 27. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of distributing polyphase alternating current power “further comprising, with at least a third of the plurality of polyphase power outputs, distributing a third power phase received by the polyphase power input,” as recited by dependent claim 31.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 31 be withdrawn.

Claim 32

Dependent claim 32 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 27 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 27. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of distributing polyphase alternating current power “further comprising, with at least a third of the plurality of power information visual display sections, reporting power information regarding the third power phase distributed by the at least a third of the plurality of polyphase power outputs,” as recited by dependent claim 32.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 32 be withdrawn.

Claim 33

Dependent claim 33 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 27 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 27. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of distributing polyphase alternating current power “wherein the reporting power information regarding the third power phase comprises determining current of the third power phase,” as recited by dependent claim 33.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 33 be withdrawn.

Claim 35

Independent claim 35 recites “transmitting the analog signals to the digital visual display module disposed in the three-phase delta power distribution and monitoring apparatus, wherein the digital visual display module comprises a plurality of visual displays; and with the plurality of visual displays, at least partially simultaneously reporting the analog signals each representing the magnitude of the phase power flowing through the power supply” (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that Chapel does not teach or suggest any type of digital visual display module disposed in a three-phase delta power distribution and monitoring apparatus, wherein the digital visual display module comprises a plurality of visual displays, let alone the type claimed or within the environment of the digital visual display module claimed, as noted in the Office Action at Page 3.

Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker does not cure the deficiencies of Chapel. For example, Gilker is understood to describe a single visual display device (an LED display) that can provide a readout for a certain phase of a polyphase system *when a corresponding phase button is pressed* (see, e.g., Gilker at col. 5, line 47, to col. 6, line 29). Applicant respectfully submits, however, that Gilker is not unlike the prior art described in the present application at paragraph [0010]: “this prior art three-phase plugstrip has included a single current display visible to an operator along the face of the plugstrip in which the outputs are also mounted.” The present application continues by stating that “another problem with this type of prior art system is that it requires the operator to take the time and effort to stop whatever the operator may be doing, turn attention to the plugstrip, and press the display button on the plugstrip to cycle through and observe the current indicators for the various phases” (see paragraph [0011]). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker does not teach or suggest transmitting the analog signals to the digital visual display module disposed in the three-phase delta power distribution and monitoring apparatus, wherein the digital visual display module comprises a plurality of visual displays, as recited in independent claim 35.

Additionally, Gilker does not teach or suggest simultaneous display of power information for

multiple power phases. In fact, Gilker teaches away from it. For example, Gilker describes how different parameters for phase A could be shown sequentially and held for a short period of time, but “[t]hen, the same current parameters for the current in phase B would be shown for a short time and then so on to phase C and the ground phase” (see Gilker at col. 6, lines 23-25). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker teaches away from transmitting the analog signals to the digital visual display module disposed in the three-phase delta power distribution and monitoring apparatus, wherein the digital visual display module comprises a plurality of visual displays; and with the plurality of visual displays, at least partially simultaneously reporting the analog signals each representing the magnitude of the phase power flowing through the power supply, each of the plurality of visual displays corresponding to a power phase, as recited by independent claim 35.

Therefore, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter of independent claim 35. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references let alone in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn from independent claim 35 and such action is respectfully requested.

Claim 38

Dependent claim 38 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 35 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 35. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “further comprising converting in each of the plurality of power supplies alternating current to direct current,” as recited by dependent claim 38.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 38 be withdrawn.

Claim 39

Dependent claim 39 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 35 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 35. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a

method of polyphase power distribution “wherein the sensing comprises using a current-sensing transducer,” as recited by dependent claim 39.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 39 be withdrawn.

Claim 40

Dependent claim 40 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 35 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 35. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “further comprising converting an analog output from the current-sensing transducer to a digital output,” as recited by dependent claim 40.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 40 be withdrawn.

Claim 41

Independent claim 41 recites “transmitting the analog signal to one of the plurality of digital visual display modules disposed in the three-phase wye power distribution and monitoring apparatus.”

Applicant respectfully submits that Chapel does not teach or suggest any type of digital visual display modules disposed in a three-phase wye power distribution and monitoring apparatus, let alone the type claimed or within the environment of the digital visual display modules claimed, as noted in the Office Action at Page 3.

Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker does not cure the deficiencies of Chapel. For example, Gilker is understood to describe a single visual display device (an LED display) that can provide a readout for a certain phase of a polyphase system *when a corresponding phase button is pressed* (see, e.g., Gilker at col. 5, line 47, to col. 6, line 29). Applicant respectfully submits, however, that Gilker is not unlike the prior art described in the present application at paragraph [0010]: “this prior art three-phase plugstrip has included a single current display visible to an operator along the face of the plugstrip in which the outputs are also mounted.” The present application continues by stating

that “another problem with this type of prior art system is that it requires the operator to take the time and effort to stop whatever the operator may be doing, turn attention to the plugstrip, and press the display button on the plugstrip to cycle through and observe the current indicators for the various phases” (*see* paragraph [0011]). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker does not teach or suggest transmitting the analog signal to one of the plurality of digital visual display modules disposed in the three-phase wye power distribution and monitoring apparatus, as recited in independent claim 41.

Additionally, Gilker does not teach or suggest simultaneous display of power information for multiple power phases. In fact, Gilker teaches away from it. For example, Gilker describes how different parameters for phase A could be shown sequentially and held for a short period of time, but “[t]hen, the same current parameters for the current in phase B would be shown for a short time and then so on to phase C and the ground phase” (see Gilker at col. 6, lines 23-25). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Gilker teaches away from transmitting the analog signal to one of the plurality of digital visual display modules disposed in the three-phase wye power distribution and monitoring apparatus, as recited by independent claim 41.

Therefore, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter of independent claim 41. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references let alone in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn from independent claim 41 and such action is respectfully requested.

Claim 44

Dependent claim 44 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 41 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 41. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “further comprising converting in the neutral power supply alternating current to direct current,” as recited by dependent claim 44.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 44 be withdrawn.

Claim 45

Dependent claim 45 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 41 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 41. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “wherein the sensing comprises using a current-sensing transducer,” as recited by dependent claim 45.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 45 be withdrawn.

Claim 46

Dependent claim 46 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 41 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 41. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel and Gilker, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “further comprising converting an analog output from the current-sensing transducer to a digital output,” as recited by dependent claim 46.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 46 be withdrawn.

Patentability of Claims 34, 36, 37, 42, and 43 over Chapel, Gilker, and Arato under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 34, 36, 37, 42, and 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,628,009 to Chapel (“Chapel”), U.S. Patent No. 4,581,705 to Gilker et al. (“Gilker”), and U.S. Patent 4,528,497 to Arato (“Arato”).

Claim 34

Dependent claim 34 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 27 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 27. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel, Kern, and Arato, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of distributing polyphase alternating current power “further comprising, with at least one of the plurality of power information monitors, providing a sensory alarm, whereby a human in the vicinity of the power distribution apparatus may receive sensory stimulation from the sensory alarm,” as recited by dependent claim 34.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 34 be withdrawn.

Claim 36

Dependent claim 36 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 35 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 35. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel, Kern, and Arato, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “further comprising generating an alarm when the analog signal meets at least one specified criteria,” as recited by dependent claim 36.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 36 be withdrawn.

Claim 37

Dependent claim 37 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 35 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 35. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel, Kern, and Arato, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “wherein generating an alarm comprises generating an audible alarm that can be heard by a user within the vicinity of the three-phase delta power distribution and monitoring apparatus,” as recited by dependent claim 37.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 37 be withdrawn.

Claim 42

Dependent claim 42 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 41 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 41. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel, Kern, and Arato, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “further comprising generating an alarm when the analog signal meets at least one specified criteria,” as recited by dependent claim 42.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 42 be withdrawn.

Claim 43

Dependent claim 43 depends directly or indirectly from parent claim 41 and is allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of parent claim 41. It is also independently patentable.

For example, Chapel, Kern, and Arato, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of polyphase power distribution “wherein generating an alarm comprises generating an audible alarm that can be heard by a user within the vicinity of the three-phase delta power distribution and monitoring apparatus,” as recited by dependent claim 43.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion to combine the references much less in a fashion that would yield the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of dependent claim 43 be withdrawn matter.

Request for Examiner Interview Should Any Issues Remain

Should any issues remain after entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney to arrange for an Examiner Interview. This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

Conclusion

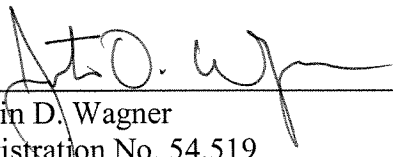
Applicant respectfully submits that the claims in their present form should be allowed. Early favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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